Twenty-seven sick Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) had been referred to Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). Rehabilitation schemes have been sanctioned by BIFR in respect of 12 PSEs. These PSEs are Braithwaite & Co (BCL), Bharat Brakes and Valves Ltd. (BBVL), Bharat Pumps and Compressors Ltd (BPCL), Triveni Structural Ltd (TSL), Richardson & Cruddas (R & C), Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC), Scooter India Ltd (SIL), Rerolle Burn Ltd. (RBL), Jessop & Co., Instrumentation Ltd. Kota (I & K), Burn Standard Co, Ltd. (BSCL) and National Instruments Ltd. (NIL).

Import of Rubber

2952. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rubber imported during the current year;

(b) whether Government consider to set up a price stabilisation fund to influence the fluctuation of market price of natural rubber; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) The quantity of Natural Rubber imported during the current year upto May 2000 is estimated as 752 MT.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Problems Faced by Farmers and Private Tea Garden owners in Thakurganj

2953. VEN'BLE DHAMMAVIRIYO:
SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the problems faced by the farmers and private tea garden owners in the Thakurganj sub-division of Kishanganj district in Bihar;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is no tea processing unit in this area and the farmers are forced to sell green leaf at very low price to West Bengal; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up tea processing units in this area and to privide support to the farmers?